

Amendments to the Claims:

Kindly amend claims 1-20, cancel claims 21-27, and add new claim 28 as indicated below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A structural protein of adeno-associated virus (AAV), which comprises at least one mutation, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mutated structural protein is capable of particle[[s]] formation, and the mutation brings about an increase in the infectivity of the ~~virus~~ AAV.

2. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mutation(s) is/are ~~located on the virus surface~~ in surface-located regions of the structural protein.

3. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mutation(s) is/are located at the N terminus of the structural protein.

4. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mutated structural protein brings about a change in the protein-cell membrane receptor interaction.

5. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the cell membrane receptor is a glycoprotein of about 150 kD and/or a heparan sulphate proteoglycan.

6. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is selected from mutated VP1, mutated VP2 and/or mutated VP3.

7. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that it is derived~~ wherein the AAV is selected from the group consisting of AAV2, AAV3, AAV4, AAV5 and/or AAV6.

8. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the mutation(s) is/are point mutation(s), mutation(s) of several amino acids, one or more deletions of amino acids, ~~and/or~~ one or more insertions of amino acids, or a combination of ~~this mutation~~ these mutations.

9. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the insertion is a cell membrane receptor ligand, a Rep protein or Rep peptide, an immunosuppressive protein or peptide and/or a protein or peptide having a signal for double-strand synthesis of the foreign gene.

10. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ligand is selected from an integrin, a cytokine or a receptor-binding domain of a cytokine, integrin or growth factor, a single-chain antibody binding to a cell surface receptor, an antibody against cell surface structures, an antibody-binding structure or an epitope, and from ligands which bind via their charge, ~~the nature of the characteristic amino acid composition~~ via the type of amino acids, and/or via their specific ~~glycosilation~~ glycosylation and/or phosphorylation to cell surface molecules.

11. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structural protein is VP1 and wherein the mutation(s) is/are brought about by one or more insertions at ~~the~~ a XhoI cleavage site of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

12. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structural protein is VP1 and wherein the mutation(s) is/are brought about by one or more insertions at ~~the~~ a BsrBI cleavage site of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

13. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structural protein is VP1 and wherein the mutation(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions between the BsrBI/HindII cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid and one or more insertions.

14. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structural protein is VP3 and wherein one or more insertions in VP3 is/are located before and/or after at least one amino acid in the sequence selected from the group consisting of YKQIS SQSGA (SEQ ID NO: 2), YLTLN NGSQA (SEQ ID NO: 3), YYLSR TNTPS (SEQ ID NO: 4), EEKFF PQSGV (SEQ ID NO: 5), NPVAT, EQYGS (SEQ ID NO: 6), LQRGN RQAAT (SEQ ID NO: 7), and NVDFVT VDTNG (SEQ ID NO: 8).

15. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structural protein is VP1 and wherein the mutation(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions between XhoI/XhoI cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

16. (Currently Amended) The structural protein according to Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structural protein is VP1 and wherein the mutation(s) is/are brought about by one or more deletions between BsrBI/HindII cleavage sites of the VP1-encoding nucleic acid.

17. (Currently Amended) A structural protein according to Claim 1 in the form of an AAV particle, in particular in the form of an AAV capsid.

18. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid coding for a structural protein ~~according to~~ of Claim 1.

19. (Currently Amended) A cell comprising a nucleic acid ~~according to~~ of Claim 18.

20. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a structural protein ~~according to~~ of Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a cell according to Claim 19 is cultivated and, ~~where appropriate,~~ the expressed structural protein is isolated.

21-27. (Canceled)

28. (New) A method for altering the tropism of AAV, the method comprising cultivating a cell which comprises an AAV coding for a structural protein of claim 1; and isolating the AAV particle produced by the cell.